

#24120

12/6/78

Director of Central Intelligence

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

IM-92: Soviet Air Force "Brief"

1. In accordance with your request, the following information, the latest available from the USAF, is submitted:

a. Strengths and Locations.

See TAB "A" of attached "Air Order of Battle." This represents latest available information.

b. Aircraft Types, Characteristics, and Performances.

See TAB "B" of attached "Air Intelligence Report." Principal operational types checked in red. Fighters in particular, both jet and conventional, compare favorably with best US designs.

c. Significant Developments and Trends in Russian Aircraft, Engines, Aircraft Armament, and Guided Missiles.

See TAB "C" of attached "Air Intelligence Report."

d. Training.

No information available on Russian pilot and aircrew output.

With respect to unit and individual proficiency, Soviet Air Force is considered inferior to US, particularly in night flying, instrument flying, and high altitude bombing. However, there is every indication that Soviets are conducting intensive training programs designed to bring their proficiency up to US standards. Particular emphasis is being placed on development of Long Range (i.e. Strategic) Force.

2. It is requested that the attached publications be returned to this office when no longer required.

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